

May 8, 2016



HIGHWAY 32 MESSENGER

Highway 32 Church of Christ
1688 Tri-County Highway
P.O. Box 642
Williamsburg, OH, 45176
www.highway32coc.com

Elders

**Lowell Smith, Morris Wright
Frank Norvell
Minister
Marc Curfman
(513) 553-3703**

Sunday Bible Class 10:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly 11:00AM
Sunday Evening Assembly 6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study 7:30PM

Privileged to Serve

Announcements Ron Smith
Song Leader Lowell Smith
Prayer Don Salisbury
Lord's Table Assist Frank Glover
 Ron Glover
 Caleb Watkins
 Alex Watkins

Sermon: Marc Curfman

Closing Prayer: Bob Parker

Song Leader Evening Ashton Hutchinson

Attendance

	Last Week	Week Before
Sun. Bible	46	48
Morn. Assembly	76	80
Sun Eve.	29	23
Wed. Study	25	22
Contribution	\$1156.00	\$1428.00

Just give me the truth

Christian author John Ortberg tells a story of a man who goes to his auto mechanic to have his car checked out. "Your car is great!" says the shop owner. So the man drives off only to realize that he has no brakes and nearly has a wreck. "Why would you tell me my car is fine when it had no brakes?" he asks. "Well," says the mechanic, "I wanted my garage to be a place that made you feel good and safe about your car. So why would I give you unhappy news?"

The absurdity of that story is obvious to all. Yet is that not exactly the kind of church most people are looking for? Is that not the kind of preacher most people seek out? We want all good news. We want to feel good about ourselves regardless of the reality of our lives. But just like that man in the auto mechanic's garage, what we need most is the truth so that we can do whatever is needed for our own good.

There are those preachers who are constantly negative and critical and condemning. Then there are those who never correct, never rebuke and never challenge the listener. Neither is what God demands. Jesus tells us that it is truth that frees us (John 8:32). There are times that the truth encourages and assures and there are times that the truth hurts. But it is truth that gives us assurance. 1 John 5:13 John writes; ***"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life."*** We don't need wishful feelings but truth.

The prophet Jeremiah had his enemies; false prophets who only gave good news and actually mocked Jeremiah's message, calling it; ***"the burden of the Lord."*** Jer. 23. Yet the true burden was the hurt and destructiveness of sin among the people. Their corrupt lives were destroying rather than protecting them, both in this life and the one to come.

It should never be our motive to make people happy nor sad. Our goal is to call people to a hope anchored in God's divine message; that is God's truth as found in His word. It was that truth that caused 3,000 people to find hope on the day of Pentecost, not by telling people how wonderful they were but by confronting their lives. The truth gave a jailor in Philippi hope when he thought life was hopeless. The truth caused the rich young ruler to walk away sorrowfully when he was not willing to make the needed changes in his life but the truth also helped a Samaritan woman reclaim the joy of living.

Our call is to persuade people to follow Christ, to be the light that shines in the darkness and to show the path to eternal hope. Yet it must be God's truth if our words, our ministries and our actions are to save souls.

Just as that driver needed warning about those bad brakes, I need the sincere concern of my brothers and sisters so that I too might live, not with false encouragement but true salvation.

"Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But deceitful are the kisses of an enemy." Prov. 27:6.

marc

Welcome to Highway 32 Church,

We are a group of Christians worshipping God according to the Teaching in the New Testament. May we all worship our loving Father today with sincere hearts, open and receptive to His Spirit and His love.

May Teachers

Pre- K thru 5th Sue Curfman

Youth

Sunday Morning Adult classes:

Lowell Smith

Wed. Eve. Don Salisbury



May Teacher:
Kacie Smith



Building & Communion
Month of May
Frank/Yvonne Glover
Family

Note: Children will go to Bible Hour during the song before the morning lesson. Children ages 2 thru the 6th grade may attend.

VBS will be held 7/16-27/16. See Lowell if you can help with group arriving from Alabama. Next Saturday is a work day-coffee & donuts provided. Start 9am.

Sermon notes: Musical praise in the New Testament church

Acappella: *"In the way/manner of the church"*

It is often the mistaken idea that acappella worship or non-instrumental singing is a unique thing of the churches of Christ alone. Yet from the earliest days of the church until now, there have been those who recognized the New Testament pattern of singing with the voice alone. From the days of the first century until hundreds of years later, almost every example we can find of Christian worship was without any musical instruments, as the church praised God in a unique manner separate from that of Old Testament Judaism and the pagan practices that surrounded believers.

Our goal continues to be to speak where the Bible speaks and not go beyond the example and authority of the written word.

Both Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox remained voice only praise until the first organ was introduced in Rome by the Pope in A.D. 670. By A.D. 812, there were only two cathedrals in all of Europe that had an instrument in their cathedrals. Not until the tenth century are musical instruments more common place in churches as more and more manmade traditions of worship are practiced.

Many might be surprised to know that most of the early protestant reformers also rejected musical instruments in worship. Men such as Wycliffe, Hus, Erasmus, Zwingli, Calvin and others found it to be a regression to ancient Judaism and temple worship with no place in our Christian praise.

Even within churches of Christ, there are those who in recent times have chosen to add instrumental music. Around the time of the Civil war, different paths were followed by those of the Christian church and the Disciples of Christ. Now in the past decade or so, many Acappella churches have adopted "contemporary worship" style. Does it matter or is it optional.

Next week we want to look just at the passages on the subject and hear God's word. Our likes, wants and opinions must always be put aside in favor of God's word. So what is it that God's word tells us of our praise?

May Birthdays

5/7 Kelsey Book

5/8 Amy Wright

5/9 Ron Glover

5/22 Kacie Smith

5/25 Judy Shaw

*Tentative Date for Graduate luncheon for Gracie Book & Taylor Hahn will be Sunday, June 5th.

* Kelsey Book is graduating this morning.

May Anniversaries

5/30 Ron/Myrna Smith

Prayers: Work of our volunteers in the community with the upcoming VBS in July. Those traveling on Mothers Day; Mayes family and Norvell family.

Continue to remember: Mark Book, Joe Cassinelli, Mary Chapman, Megan Chapman, Mary Carrothers, Josh Cornett, Karen Creamer, Ray Curfman, Sara Davis, Maralah Morgan, Clayton Wagner, Laura Wilkey, Our church family.

"The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."